

# Washington State Patrol Media Release

**Chief John R. Batiste**

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**\*\*\*For Immediate Release\*\*\***

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## **WSP Releases 2006 Memorial Weekend C.A.R.E. Stats**

Chief John Batiste announced today the Combined Accident Reduction Effort (CARE) emphasis resulted in a 100% decrease in fatal collisions as compared to the same time last year. The C.A.R.E. emphasis began at midnight on May 26<sup>th</sup> and ended at midnight on May 29<sup>th</sup>. "We had five fewer people die on our highways over the Memorial Day weekend, and that is a huge success story," stated Chief Batiste. The number of alcohol related collisions was also down 21 percent, and DUI arrests were up 21 percent.

"I am very proud of the work our women and men are doing everyday, they are working hard to prevent fatalities on our highways. This work and a change of behavior by drivers to wear seat belts and slow down results in this kind of success. I couldn't be more pleased," said Batiste.

Below is a comparison of the 2005 vs. 2006 Memorial Day weekend:

	2005	2006	
Number of Fatal Collisions	5	0	-100%
Number of Fatalities	9	0	-100%
Number of DUI Arrests	298	362	21%
Number of Speed Tickets	3,989	6,318	58%
Number of Seat Belt Tickets	928	1147	24%
Number of Alcohol Related Collisions	34	27	-21%

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